

## **REMARKS**

The enclosed is responsive to Examiner's Office Action mailed on 3/27/2006 and is being filed pursuant to a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) as provided under 37 CFR 1.114. At the time Examiner mailed the Office Action claims 1-19, 22 and 24-27 were pending. By way of the present response Applicants has: 1) amended claims 1, 22, 24, and 27; 2) added no new claims; and 3) canceled no claims. As such, claims 1-19, 22 and 24-27 are now pending. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application and the allowance of all claims now presented.

### **Claim Rejections – 35 USC §103**

Claims 1-7, 9-11, 14-17, 22, and 24-27 stand rejected under 35 USC. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Becker et al, U.S. Publication No. 2002/0130904 (hereinafter "Becker") in view of Widger et al., US Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0117733 (hereinafter "Widger").

In reference to claims 1, 22, 24, and 27, Applicants respectfully submit that Becker in view of Widger does not teach or suggest all of the features of the claims. More specifically, Becker in view of Widger does not teach or suggest indicating a number of messages received in an IM session in a respective indicator in a single IM session window.

For claims 1, 22, 24, and 27, one single window includes an indicator per IM session, wherein the indicators illustrate the number of messages received in the indicator's respective session. As stated by Examiner, Becker does not describe illustrating how many messages the user receives from any one of the other users.

Widger describes indicating the total number of messages (e.g., phone or email messages) received. Widger does not describe, though, indicating the number of messages received per session, or even the number of messages received per contact.

Therefore, Becker in view of Widger does not teach or suggest all of the features of claims 1, 22, 24, and 27. Hence, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 22, 24, and 27 are in condition for allowance.

Since claims 2-7, 9-11, 14-17, and 25-26 depend from claims 1 or 24 and include additional features, Applicants respectfully that claims 2-7, 9-11, 14-17, and 25-26 are also in condition for allowance.

Claims 12 and 13 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Becker in view of Widger and further in view of Vaananen, U.S. Publication No. 2004/0014456 (hereinafter "Vaananen").

Since claims 12-13 depend from independent claim 1 and include additional features, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 12-13 are in condition for allowance.

Claims 18 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Becker in view of Widger and further in view of Helfman et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,396,513 (hereinafter "Helfman").

Since claims 18-19 depend from independent claim 1 and include additional features, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 18-19 are in condition for allowance.

#### Claim Objections

Claim 8 is objected to for being dependent on a rejected claim but being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Since claim 8 depends from claim 1 and claim 1 is now in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 8 is in condition for allowance.

**CONCLUSION**

Applicants respectfully submit that all rejections have been overcome and that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

If there are any additional charges, please charge them to our Deposit Account Number 02-2666. If a telephone conference would facilitate the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Thomas C. Webster at (408) 720-8300.

Respectfully Submitted,  
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